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# Independent Coal Review

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Vol. 7—No. 7



DECEMBER 1963

Pottsville, Pa.



## Ask What You Can Do For Your Country

Words are simply inadequate to express the grief, stunned reaction and shock of Independent Coal Review and the entire personnel and affiliates of Independent Miners and Associates at the death of President John F. Kennedy.

The late President Kennedy was not only the youngest president the United States ever had but also one of the most progressive and far-seeing.

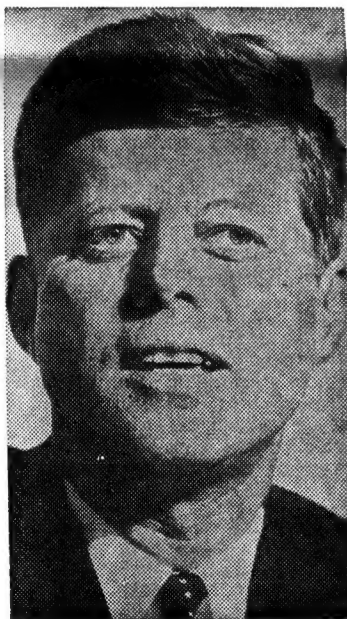
Every member and every member's family affiliated with IMA and the Independent Coal Review feels a great personal sense of grief and loss at this tragedy.

Also every member and every member's family expresses the most sincerest good wishes to President Lyndon B. Johnson for success in the almost superhuman task which has now been placed on his shoulders.

Immediately upon notification of the death of President Kennedy and succession to office of President Johnson the following two telegrams were dispatched to Washington, D. C. by Clyde L. Machamer, president of Independent Miners and Associates on behalf of the entire organization.

Machamer also respectfully requested that all IMA operations be closed all day Monday, Nov. 25 in respectful observance of the funeral services for the late President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

The telegram to Mrs. Kennedy said, "Our profound sympathy at this time of deep personal grief. We realize the utter futility of words at such a time



John F. Kennedy

but our prayers and our hearts are with you and your family at this tragic hour. America and the world has lost a courageous and a great champion for peace and human dignity. With people everywhere we mourn the loss of one who was close to the hearts of all".

The telegram to President Johnson said, "In this hour of great sadness we know all Americans will unite behind you. May God give you strength as you assume the duties of president, that you may complete the unfilled tasks begun by the late President John F. Kennedy in an effort to build a better world. This association pledges full support to you Mr. President".

## Lippi Convicted Will Appeal

A federal district court jury has convicted Luzerne County labor leader August J. Lippi of scheming to defraud the bank he once headed of \$38,977.

The jury deliberated for four and a half hours before returning the verdict.

"It's a just verdict under all the evidence," said U. S. Atty. Bernard J. Brown, who successfully prosecuted the case.

Lippi's counsel, Edwin Kosik and James Walker, said nothing outside the court except they plan to appeal.

The 63-year-old Lippi stood silently beside his attorneys as the clerk read the verdict on each of the 34 counts. After the verdict was announced, he sat unmoved at the counsel table. His wife, Lena, was in the courtroom, but said nothing.

### UMW District President

Lippi is president of the United Mine Workers District 1 and was formerly president of the First National Bank of Exeter where an alleged shortage of nearly half a million dollars was uncovered. George Daileida, former cashier at the bank and chief witness against Lippi, testified he diverted some funds to cover bad checks by Lippi.

In the past three years Lippi has been before both federal and commonwealth courts on charges ranging from involuntary manslaughter to corporate income tax evasion. He is also awaiting trial on a charge of personal income tax evasion.

Judge William J. Nealon deferred sentencing. Lippi could be sentenced to 170 years and fined \$190,000 on his conviction on all the counts against him.

Judge Nealon thanked the members of the jury—nine men and three women—for their

(Continued On Page Eight)

## INDEPENDENT COAL REVIEW

Vol. 7 No. 7 December 1963 Pottsville

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Room 406, Masonic Building, Pottsville, Pa.

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BENEFICIAL AND WELFARE FUND: Kenneth Heiser, Schuylkill Haven; Clyde L. Machamer, Reinerton; Robert Rissinger, Millersburg.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

We believe along with the rest of the United States that a full and complete public report should be made as soon as possible on all facets of the tragic, needless and senseless killing of President John F. Kennedy.

President Kennedy was allegedly killed by a man who had once renounced his American citizenship, went to Russia to live, but later returned to America.

Truly the incident in Dallas, Texas is a black mark, a very black mark on the pages of American history.

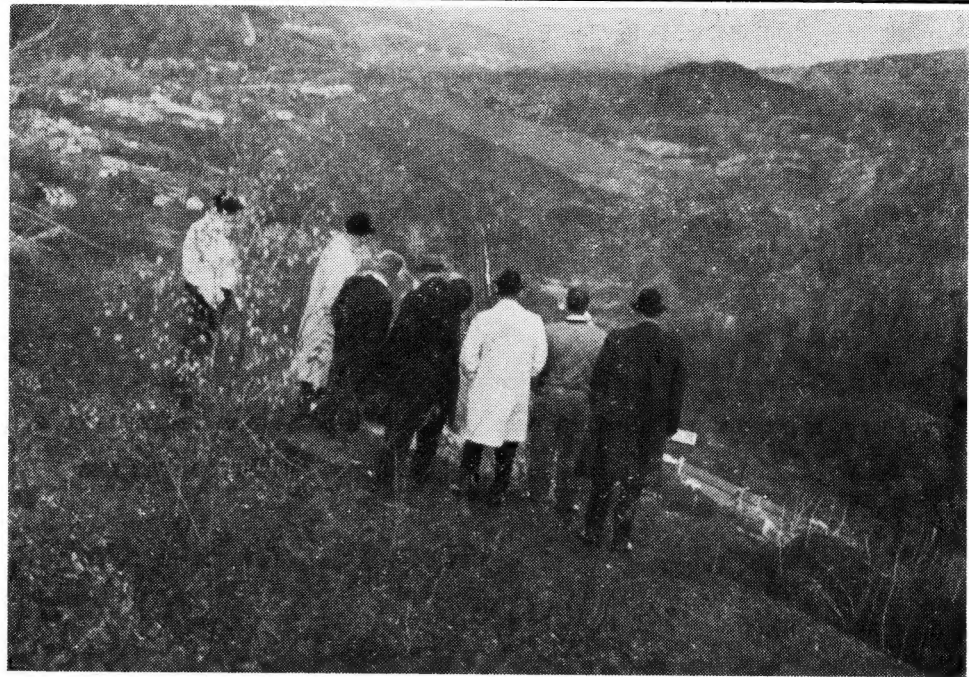
As we said in our front page story, we of the Independent Miners and Associates, who have known grief over the loss of a loved one in a mine accident feel very deeply with Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and the members of the immediate Kennedy family in their sorrow.

There is now a change in the head of our Federal Government. Our new president is Lyndon B. Johnson. Just how, if any, this change will effect the attitude of the Federal government in relation to the Independent Mining Industry we do not know and we firmly believe it is too early to hazard any guesses.

We recommend to our people that they adopt no attitude especially as far as the activities of the Federal Bureau of Mines is concerned. Common decency dictates that no comments either pro or con be made at this time.

## Clear To The Face

Though many operators abroad take diesels to the face and argue that this is where they really pay off, most people in the U. S. contemplate their use only in mainline service. That this may be overly restrictive is being demonstrated daily in Utah, where truck operators take standard diesel trucks equipped with simple water-type exhaust scrubbers to the face—and have been doing so for some years with complete success. Aside from scrubbers, the major difference from operation with conventional equipment is an increase in the air volume. Now the trucks are being supplemented by diesel shuttle cars and rubber-tired locomotives pulling trail cars. As noted, they all operate clear to the working face.



Touring group of Independent Miners and Associates representatives plus hosts on their tour of the Ashland Pioneer Tunnel enjoy expansive view from site. The group is looking towards Shenandoah and Girardville at the end of the outside ride. The wonderful view gives the spectator an opportunity to see as far as Gordon at one end and is comparable to the view of the world famous Grand Canyon.

## Battery Capacity Boosted To 77%

Electrical capacities of nickel-iron alkaline storage batteries have recently been boosted up to nearly 77% in a significant design improvement.

Having been completely redesigned, new Type E Exide nickel-iron alkaline batteries now make much more efficient use of available space. They are capable of producing 100 amp-hr per positive plate and 1.202 whr per cu in, up from 0.68 whr in the former design. Still 22% in high, the new models require no alterations in standard compartments of most trucks, including the critical height dimension. In addition, certain other design changes have permitted an increase in the number of positive tubes by 25% per plate, the length of the plates by one third.

Because these lifetime-guaranteed batteries have great mechanical strength, a noncorrosive electrolyte and can be stored indefinitely without deterioration, they can withstand abuse and use in extremely rugged service.

Exide Industrial Marketing Div., Electric Storage Battery Co., Rising Sun and Adams Aves., Philadelphia 20, Pa.

## Ask \$775,000 To Fill Abandoned Workings

A \$775,000 project for filling in abandoned mine workings that threaten to collapse and cause damage to 388 residences, three schools and other buildings in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. was announced.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall said the project, proposed by Pennsylvania, is the first of its kind to be financed equally by the state and federal governments.

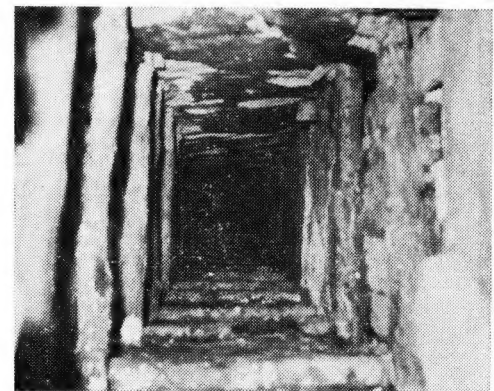
## Charmbury Urges Public To Stay Out of Abandoned Mines

State Mines Secretary H. B. Charmbury, urged the public to stay out of inactive and abandoned coal mines.

"This program has been emphasized by the deaths of Ralph and George Studlack Jr., who were asphyxiated by carbon monoxide gas in an inactive mine near Pottsville", said Charmbury.

He added that they entered the mine "without permission of the state mine inspector."

"It is extremely dangerous for anyone to enter any mine at any time without knowing the conditions that exist in the mine," said Charmbury.



View looking towards the surface shows well timbered man-way in Pioneer Tunnel at Ashland, one of the region's most popular tourist attractions.

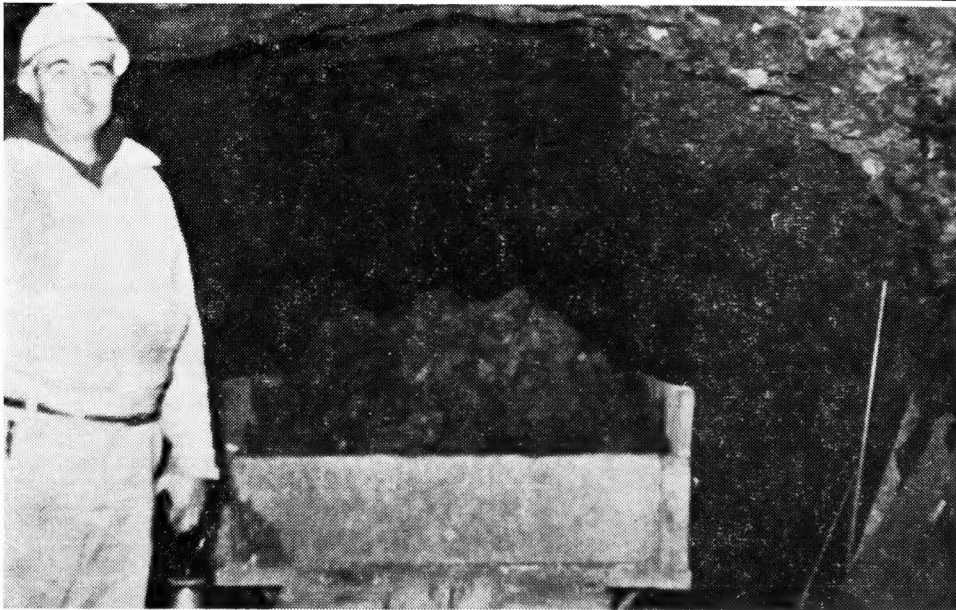
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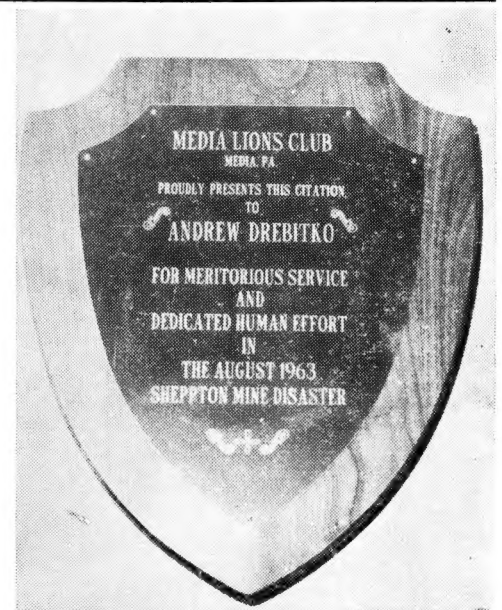
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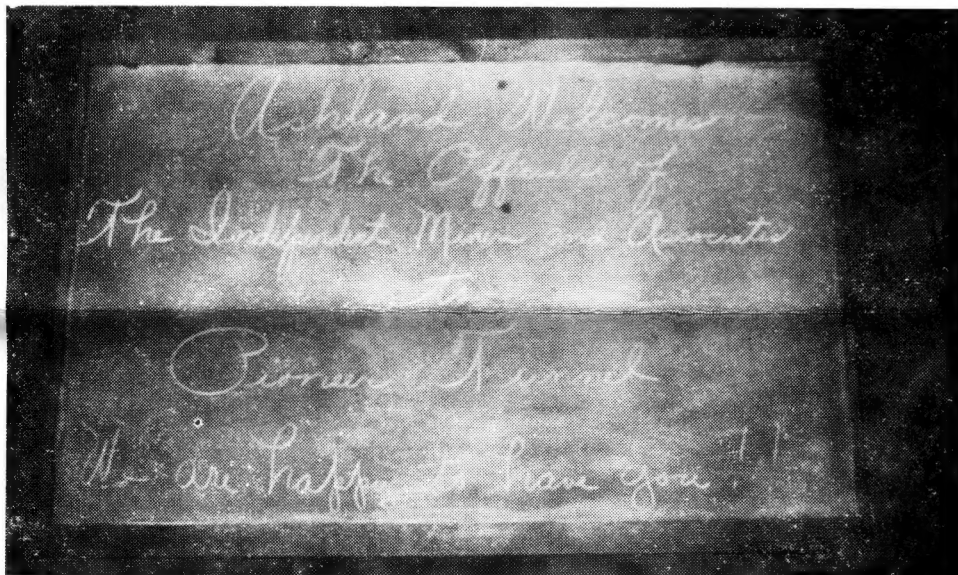




Patrick Kleman, miner-guide at Pioneer Tunnel near Ashland poses beside coal buggy which he uses to give actual mining demonstration to tourists.



Pictured here is the well earned plaque presented to Andrew Drebitko for his rescue efforts at the Sheppton mine disaster and his brave descent into the underground chamber to make a personal inspection after the thrilling rescue of Henry Throne and his partner.



This is the welcoming sign which greeted members of Independent Miners and Associates on their visit to the Ashland Pioneer tourist attraction.

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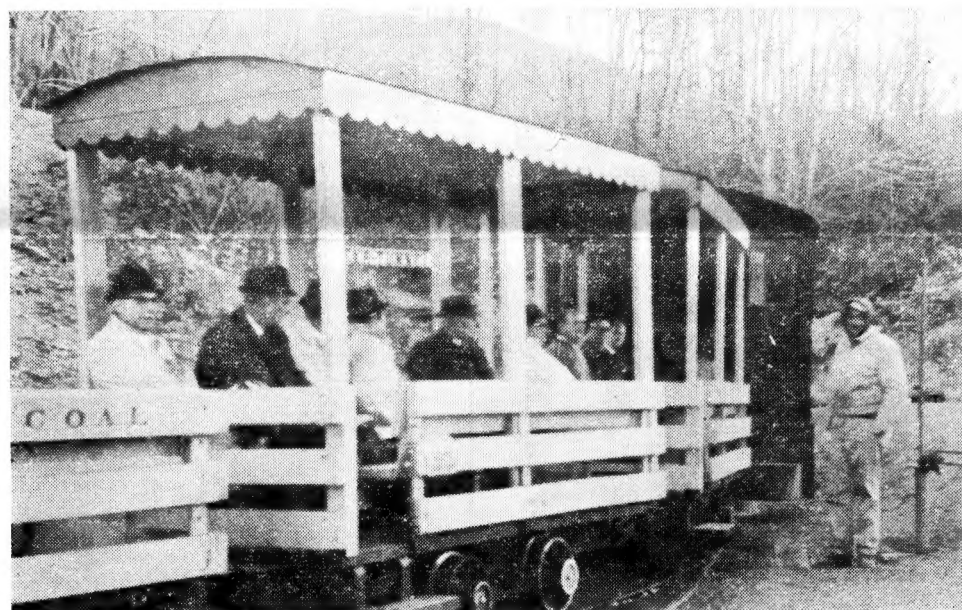
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Touring members of Independent Miners and Associates examine lagging and supports of Pioneer Tunnel at Ashland, a true replica of a Schuylkill County mine and which in the near future will become an even greater tourist attraction than it has been since its opening.



Members of IMA, President Clyde L. Machamer, Secretary James Thompson, Andrew J. Drebitko, vice-president; Joseph T. Walacavage, treasurer; Henry Bowman and Leon Richter, Executive Committee members and William Parulis, field representative, are shown in open car pulled by steam lokie which transported group on tour of Pioneer Tunnel at Ashland.

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## U. S. Small Mines Bill Gets Committee O.K.

A bill to extend the federal Coal Mine Safety Act to smaller mines cleared the House Education and Labor Committee.

Under present law, mines employing fewer than 15 miners are exempt.

The bill, which would be effective six months after enactment, would apply that law to all mines engaging in interstate commerce, regardless of size. Committee aides estimated it would bring 8,000 small mines under the federal act.

Another section would strengthen the authority of the government to correct potentially dangerous conditions, even though they pose no immediate threat.

When such a violation could be "a significant and substantial contribution to a disaster-type incident," the government could compel the operator to correct it. A further inspection in 90 days would be provided to make sure that no similar condition occurs.

The measure would expand the present three-member coal mine safety board of review to five members, giving small mine operators and employees representation.

One section applies only to Alabama. It would allow a six-month grace period before the use of black powder in mines is outlawed. Black powder is banned everywhere else.

## Clothing Storage

The Moore Co., 1036 Quarrier St., Charleston, W. Va., offers this new concept in overhead clothing storage, featuring both self-locking garment hooks and the patented Sur-Hold coat hanger with vertical coat stabilizers. This "Lockerbasket" provides secure sanitary ventilated overhead storage of clothing and personal effects. The design of the hanger prevents garments from slipping when the unit is in the elevated position, and Moore's heat-treated and galvanized operating accessories provide safe, easy elevation of loading clothes storage units into normally wasted ceiling areas, it is noted.

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## Charmbury Cites 189 Mines Which Do Not Have 2 Openings

The drama of the Sheppton mine disaster is being replayed by the state to extract its meaning in terms of future relations between government and the small mine operator.

Pennsylvania Mines Secretary H. Beecher Charmbury already has reached two conclusions:

—State government should provide a continuing fund for use in similar rescue operations in the future.

—The laws governing small mines (less than five men) should be made stronger.

The department also has issued a stop on small mines which—like the one at Sheppton—do not have a second access shaft.

It has been five weeks and a day since the rescue operations that caught the nation's attention resulted in the rescue of David Fellin and Henry Throne from their prison over 300 feet underground.

### Third Man Still Lost

A third miner, Louis Bova, still is missing from the cavein that caught all three on the morning of Aug. 13. Fellin and Throne were discovered alive Aug. 18 and finally pulled to safety Aug. 27 through a carefully drilled escape hole.

Charmbury was on the scene from the early morning of Aug. 19 until Sept. 3.

It was an emotion-charged experience he said, that sometimes created awkward misunderstanding.

"For instance, when I visited the scene (Aug. 13-15) before the men were found," he said, "we discovered voids in the slope alongside the cave-in area. These would keep filling up as new cave-ins occurred.

### Sought To Fill Voids

"I wanted to fill the voids—bring in about 700 tons of fill material—to stabilize the mine. "But immediately there were objections:

"what are you planning to do? Bury those men?"

"It was that kind of atmosphere."

Charmbury estimates the total cost of the rescue operation at about \$400,000 to \$500,000.

However, because so much of the time, labor and equipment was donated the final bill for the state probably will be about \$50,000, he said.

It may take years to determine the figure. Bills still are dribbling in on the Knox mine disaster at Pittston in January, 1959.

The question now is where the money is to come from to pay the Sheppton bills.

To resolve the problem for future rescue operations, Charmbury has directed the departmental counsel, Deputy Atty. Gen. Leon Ehrlich, to draw up a bill authorizing a \$1 million emergency fund.

### "Continuing" Fund

That would be a continuing fund on which the department could draw to pay for equipment and personnel as needed.

The money for the Sheppton operation, however, may have to come out of a special appropriation next year, or the department's \$2.3 million general operating budget for the current fiscal year, or the \$177,638.32 balance from the Knox disaster fund.

"This really was a tough one," Charmbury said.

"It's a heck of a thing to put the moral responsibility on the secretary's shoulder without the financial responsibility."

The area of new legislation is awaiting the recommendations of a special investigating commission.

"I feel certain there will be recommendations to give the Department of Mines authority over the small mining operation," Charmbury said. "I, personally feel very definitely there should be stronger laws governing small mines."

### Demands Two Openings

Mines with less than five men are classified as small mines.

## IMA Meetings Listed

Regular membership meeting of Independent Miners and Associates the second and Fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 p. m. in the Pottsville IMA office, fourth floor, Masonic Building, Second and W. Norwegian St., Pottsville.

Executive Committee meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p. m. in the Pottsville office.

Beneficial and Welfare Board of Trustees meets the third week of every month at 7:30 p. m. in the Pottsville office.

Large mines are governed by law; small mines are regulated by administrative order.

Meanwhile, the department has ordered a halt in operations at all small mines that do not have two openings.

The Sheppton mine, owned by Fellin, only had one entrance.

On the first state inspection last May 7 (the mine had been inactive since April 14, 1960) and on a second inspection July 2, mine inspector Ralph Ditzler's report noted: "An attempt is being made to provide a second outlet."

### 189 Lack Two Openings

Of 459 small mines in the anthracite area, Charmbury said, there are 189 without second openings. Of the 189, 138 have reported they are driving for a second opening.

Charmbury hopes that the experiences at Sheppton may be translated into workable legislation to secure the safety of future small operations.

That may be the final chapter of one of the most dramatic rescue operations in the industry's long history.

# EXPORT

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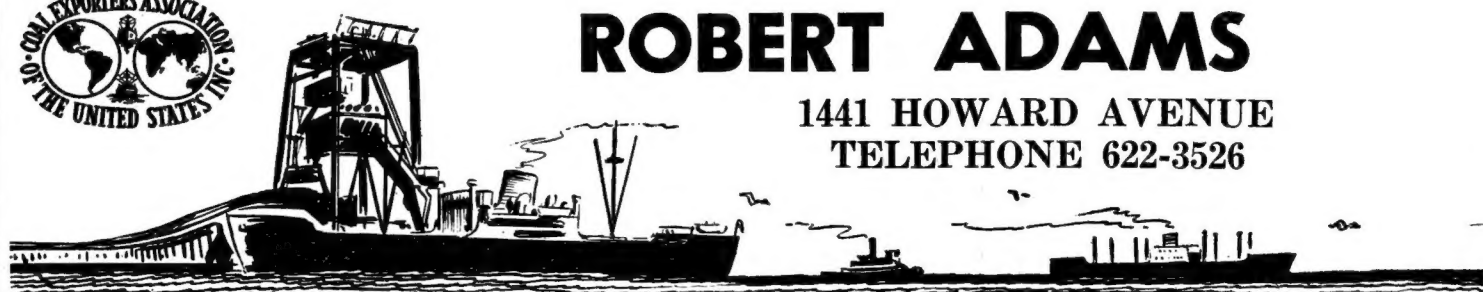
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## To Spend \$475,000 On State Coal Research

Pennsylvania is ready to embark on a sweeping new research program aimed at reviving the sagging coal industry, once the life-blood of its economy.

The 1963 State Legislature cleared the way for the new research effort, broadening the scope of the seven-year-old Coal Research Board and appropriating \$475,000 for it use.

Emphasis will be placed on practical application and ways to correct the problems of the industry, rather than just simple accumulation of scientific facts and fundamentals.

But most significant of all, the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries has decided to pioneer state research in the field of liquefaction—the conversion of coal into gasoline and liquid fuel.

"This is not a new idea," says State Mines Secretary H. Beecher Charmbury, "but until now Pennsylvania has done nothing along this line."

The U. S. Office of Coal Research in the Department of Interior already has apportioned \$440,000 for a nation wide study to determine if such a conversion is technically sound and economically feasible.

"We want to expand on this study on a state-wide basis," Charmbury stated in an interview.

Meanwhile other broad areas of research to be undertaken by the board include development of foreign markets for Pennsylvania coal, new uses in the electric utility and mineral processing fields, more effective transportation from both the bituminous and anthracite areas, mine safety and improvement of unsightly conditions in coal producing areas.

"We have spent over a million dollars in coal research since 1956," Charmbury noted. "But most of it has gone to basic research. This new and expanded program is desperately needed to help the people in the depressed coal mining areas."

Latest statistics on the decline of the coal industry in Pennsylvania are staggering. In 20 years, anthracite tonnage has dropped from 60 million a year to 16½ million a year.

The picture is just as gloomy in the bituminous fields where tonnage per year dropped from 142 million to 65 million between 1942 and 1962.

As tonnage plummeted, so did employment. The 84,000 men employed in the anthracite fields in 1942 dwindled to 14,700 by last year. In the bituminous industry, jobs plunged from the 115,000 mark to 27,000.

This is where the coal industry stands today. This is what the administration's coal research program faces in attempting to help revitalize industrial development in the depressed mining areas of the commonwealth, creating employment in the coal industry itself and improving conditions to help attract other industries to the state, Charmbury said.

"New uses and new markets must be developed to revive this industry," continued Charmbury. "The answers to these problems can only be achieved through a well balanced and well directed coal research program."

Under present plans, the state's research board is to be made up of six members, appointed by the governor, under the direc-

## Intensive Safety Programs For State In Coming Year

The year 1963 to date has been a very tragic one as far as accidents and deaths in the independent mining industry is concerned.

Not only in operations affiliated with Independent Miners and Associates but in other independent operations, not associated with our group, there have been tragic occurrences.

Officials of Independent Miners and Associates feel that starting with the new year we can look forward to renewed and more vigorous safety programs but on a local and a state level.

IMA for example will continue with its own first aid, mine safety and mine rescue programs and classes which proved so successful and well received in the past. We feel there will also be additional state-sponsored programs aimed at making each and every member of the Independent Mining Industry "safety conscious".

We urge each and every one of our members to take full advantage of all safety programs whether they be sponsored by the IMA or any other agency.

In stressing the need for safety and safe practices not only in our work but in our every day life we refer our readers to a former slogan of the Pennsylvania Department of Highways, Bureau of Traffic Safety, "Remember the life you save may be your own."

## Fire Extinguisher

"Merrimac," an easily-operated cylindrical extinguisher, continues Ansul's original "spare" idea for recharging extinguishers first introduced with the ball-shaped "Monitor" fire extinguisher. If either is used to put out a fire, its empty shell can be unscrewed and replaced as easily as changing a light bulb. Ansul Chemical Co., Marinette, Wis.

tion of a research and development director.

Twenty-five thousand dollars of the \$475,000 appropriation is set aside for administrative costs to pay the board.

The remainder is to be split as follows:

—\$75,000 for studying new uses in mineral processing.

—\$50,000 for research on transportation methods.

—\$100,000 for ways of improving the unsightly conditions of coal-producing areas and remedying the problems of air and stream pollution resulting from coal operations.

—\$50,000 for research studies in mine safety.

—\$75,000 for use in developing foreign markets.

—And \$100,000 for the new field of gasification and liquefaction of anthracite and bituminous coals.

"We will get \$1 worth of research for every \$1 spent," Charmbury promised.

The state also will continue its research efforts in the area of processing refuse banks for use as a low grade fuel.

"This is one area where Pennsylvania has made fruitful progress," Charmbury said. Fuel produced from refuse banks has proved ideal for utilities.

"The success of the new program remains to be seen," Charmbury said. "But I feel it will be a giant step toward putting the coal industry on its feet again."

## Hard Coal Least Costly In Crop Drying Program

Hard coal is the least costly fuel to use in crop drying systems, an agricultural engineer at The Pennsylvania State University reported recently.

At present fuel prices, hard coal has a comfortable margin of economy over other fuels, stated William L. Kjelgaard, engineer with the Agricultural Experiment Station at Penn State. Kjelgaard and associates have found that fuel costs for drying field shelled corn are equal when fuel oil is 14 cents a gallon, and coal costs \$23 a ton.

Modern hard coal hot air furnaces are not only the cheapest to operate but are capable of safe, regulated operation at heat outputs required for batch-type crop drying systems. One furnace of this type has been operated for two years in a wagon-type drying system at the University.

## Push Federal Bill To Aid State Mine Water Problem

Pennsylvania witnesses supported a house bill to authorize the government to pay 25 per cent of the cost of pumping water from abandoned hard coal mines in Pennsylvania.

Another 25 per cent would be paid by the state and 50 per cent by active coal companies.

Daniel H. Connelly, director of the Anthracite State-Federal Mine Drainage Program, Pennsylvania Department of Mines, told a House Interior Subcommittee he felt there should be aid for operators who assume the obligation of pumping out abandoned mines to keep their own mines active.

He emphasized that the state takes the position the aid should be only for pumping abandoned mines and not for active mines pumping for their own operations.

William Bellano, president of the Glen Alden Coal Co., Wilkes-Barre, Pa., said his company highly favors any program to promote conservation of hard coal resources.

Rep. Daniel J. Flood, D-Pa., who offered the bill, told the subcommittee the measure does not provide grants or aid for active coal companies. The bill, he said, would permit help only for pumping of abandoned mines.

## Heart-Felt Good Wishes For The Coming Holiday Season

Independent Miners and Associates, Independent Coal Review, all of our affiliates and employees wish to take this opportunity to wish one and all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a MOST HAPPY, JOYOUS AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

We hope that each and everyone had a most enjoyable Thanksgiving and extend good wishes to our friends of the other faiths who celebrate Christmas on a day other than Dec. 25, and also to our many friends and associates of the Hebrew faith on their celebration of the Festival of Lights.

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## Coal Could Be Too Valuable To Burn

Picture a lump of coal, forget that it's usually burned and step for a while into the feasible future. Here is what some serious-minded scientists and engineers are seeing in that lump:

—Highway surfaces that melt ice and electrically control traffic.

—Increased amounts of rainfall by enhancing ocean water evaporation.

—Fertilizer as good as any now produced.

—Metal alloys as hard as diamond and tougher than any known metals.

Today, technical people are freely predicting that a large chunk of coal's future lies in its importance as a raw material—a mineral—whose complex chemistry could well yield a tantalizing array of new products and processes.

They are quick to concede that coal will and should continue to hold a big share of the energy market. But they say with equal conviction that coal could someday become too valuable to burn. The possibilities of exploiting its complex chemistry are so promising that research should begin as quickly as possible.

The United States has more coal than any other country in the world—about 1.6 trillion tons of various grades in reserve. Energy experts say this amount should be enough to last the U. S. for centuries, based on the present rate of consumption.

Coalmen are fighting an uphill battle in the energy competition with the petroleum industry. They alone among the major industries have actually lowered the cost of production—from \$4.99 a ton in 1948 to today's figure of about \$4.50, a minor miracle.

Consumption, however, is barely holding its own at less than 400 million tons annually. Dark competitive clouds still rim the horizon in the form of atomic energy and new ways of generating electricity.

So the time may come when the industry will find it profitable to exploit the full potential of coal. Indeed, the end result of what today might be thought of as imaginative meanderings could conceivably help save the coal industry.

"Can you visualize a process, asks engineer R. T. Joseph of Food Machinery and Chemical Corp.," that would employ the low hydrogen content of coal, which would take raw coal in at one end of a portable reactor, add heat, catalysts and possibly filler and produce completed road surface at the other end?

"Could the process by virtue of the abrasive ash content of most coals be made to yield a surface that was resistant to ice formation, of sufficient regular irregularity to be smooth yet non-skid, and with electrical capabilities that would enable positive electronic control of vehicular traffic?"

Coal as a melting agent is not completely new. Russia has been exploring this feature for some time. Opening ice-bound harbors early, controlling floods by regulating melting rates, and increasing stream flow for power production have long been considered possible—providing effective ways of dusting frozen areas with heat-holding coal powder can be found.

Lower grades of coal such as peat and lignite have become well established as fertilizers. Researchers at the University of North Dakota announced recently the development of a fully competitive fertilizer made of nitrogen-enriched lignite, which lies under the North Dakota ground in abundance.

But scientists speak further of nitrogenating coal dust to produce a fertilizer containing the appealing properties of low corrosive effect on farm equipment, reduced caking in storage, and slow nitrogen release in the ground.

Even houses made of coal could be in store for the future homeowner. Far from being fire hazards, such houses would be constructed of a type of coal-board made from sand, coal, and chemical fire retardants. They could be shaped and nailed as easily as wood. The big virtue: Coalboard would be cheap.

Metallurgists see the possibility of fashioning coal into a material as hard as diamond, as inert chemically as graphite, and as tough as any metal now in existence. Such heaven-sent alloy would find a natural place in rocket engines and nozzles, or as cheap, non-corrosive pipe.

Coal is looked upon as a possible rocket fuel as well, says a report prepared by Booz, Allen, and Hamilton, Inc. "Coal of the proper type and proper particle size, blended with a suitable binder to enable it to be cast and to burn at even rates, could be used as a solid propellant fuel for space application. Although this may not involve large tonnages, the potential importance of this application warrants investigation," the consultant firm says.

However, no one has tried it.

Meteorologists and conservationists, ever on the lookout for better ways to increase rainfall, may someday turn to coal as a rain-maker. The idea would be to spread an area of the ocean with a coal dust foam. This black layer would be expected to trap enough sun-sent energy at the water surface to increase evaporation. As a bonus, some of the trapped energy would heat the air above the coal layer, lower its relative humidity, and further enhance the evaporation process.

Robert W. Sprague of Ford Motor Co.'s research laboratories estimates that 73,000 tons of coal spread as a layer one-thousandths of an inch thick over 1,000 square miles of ocean surface could produce about 40 million gallons of extra water per day in rain fall. This would be enough to supply the needs of a city of 250,000. It could benefit West Coast and Gulf Coast states.

Engineers are beginning to devise draft board models of coal reforming plants operating on the same principle as oil refineries. These plants would guide raw coal through a host of processes, turning out products as diverse as gasoline, natural gas, and various industrial gases and chemical.

Indeed, coal reforming plants could be the major wave of the future as petroleum stocks become depleted."

## Ask \$2.5 Millions For New Federal Mine Bureau Center

The Interior Department announced today it has asked Congress to conduct establishment and operation of a \$2.5 million analytical research center for the Bureau of Mines on the outskirts of Frederick, Md.

The proposed site is a part of Ft. Detrick. The specialized research role of the center and the proposed site were the subject of a recently completed engineering feasibility, planning, and design study authorized by Congress two years ago.

Interior said such a center "will help the bureau of mines keep pace with the increasingly stringent materials demands of the nation's scientific and defense program."

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## Lippi Convicted—

(Continued From Page One)

careful consideration of the evidence. The array of evidence included checks, deposit slips and bank records.

### Set New Bond

After the verdict was read, Nealon revoked Lippi's previous bail and set new bond of \$30,000. His lawyers immediately made arrangements to post it, using his home in Exeter as security.

Lippi was specifically accused of 27 counts of aiding and abetting the bank's cashier in misapplication of funds for his own personal use, three counts of assisting the cashier in the making of false entries in bank records and four of swearing to false statements about the bank's financial condition.

Daileda, the cashier, has pleaded guilty to misapplying funds and is awaiting sentencing.

Before coming in with its decision, the jury returned once to the courtroom. It asked "What happens to a cashier's check after payment?"

Following consultation with the lawyers, Judge Nealon replied, "A cashier's check, after it has been paid, is returned to the bank and is the property of the bank."

### Part of Defense

It was part of Lippi's defense that checks allegedly drawn on his account when he had insufficient funds actually were cashier's checks for which he had provided his own money to purchase.

Lippi is still awaiting trial on an indictment charging he failed to pay more than \$67,000 in personal income taxes for the years 1956-57-58.

In April, 1962, in another trial at Lewisburg, Lippi and Mrs. Josephine Sciandra of Wyoming were convicted of conspiring to evade payment of \$80,000 in corporate taxes of the now defunct Knox Coal Co. they have appealed.

In 1960 in Wilmington, Del., Lippi was convicted of violating the Taft-Hartley Law by accepting \$8,000 from Knox while representing its employees. A federal judge has granted him a new trial, but has not yet been held.

Last May, Lippi and three other men were acquitted at Lewisburg of corporate income tax evasion in connection with the Avon and Peeley mining companies of Wyoming, Pa.

Lippi was also convicted, but the decision was later thrown out, of involuntary manslaughter in the deaths of 12 miners when the Susquehanna River flooded a Knox mine. Lippi was accused by the state of being a part owner in the mine. Two others were also convicted but those verdicts were also thrown out.

## Pollution Problems

New gob-fire measures recently adopted in Pennsylvania and additional moves by Orsanco are indications that air and water pollution will be even livelier questions in the future. Those in position to know continue to warn that time is running out for those who are not moving to conform.

## Coal Industry Sees Bugaboo In Nuclear Power Plans of U. S.

The coal industry sees a bugaboo in its future—nuclear power and the federal government's vast efforts to use it to provide American homes and industries with cheap electrical power.

The coal manufacturers' fears were heightened recently by the Atomic Energy Commission's report that it had successfully activated an experimental nuclear plant at Idaho Falls, Idaho. The plant is designed to generate electricity and at the same time produce more of its own fuel than it itself consumes.

Despite the bright promise of lower electricity bills, and Washington's confident predictions that there are fuel reserves for all, the coal manufacturers are worried.

They fear that the federal government is pouring money into a project that may ruin their livelihood.

They point to the fact that the AEC has spent \$1.3 billion so far to develop a civilian nuclear power industry that can produce electricity as cheaply—or maybe cheaper—than that produced from coal and other fossil fuels.

The coal industry wants the federal government to know it is quite capable of holding its own in any fuels competition. At the same time, it resents big government competition with private enterprise.

Most experts agree that the atom is not going to produce electricity so plentiful and cheap that it will not even have to be metered.

Instead, the hope now is to develop nuclear power to a point where it can be used to generate power in the usual manner in place of coal and other fossil fuels.

To achieve this objective, the AEC plans to build up to a dozen large, non-experimental and primarily duplicate commercial plants.

Privately owned utilities will actually build them, but AEC offers them incentives in the form of subsidies. These run as high as \$60 million for a plant in the 400,000 - 500,000 kilowatt range.

Congress, the coal industry and private utilities are asking if such a large subsidy program is necessary.

They wonder if the nation will run out

of electricity in the foreseeable future because of exhausted coal and other fuel reserves.

And, they ask, is the present price of electricity so high that the federal government must step in to protect the public interest?

The national coal policy conference, which speaks for member coal companies, believes that until these questions are answered, present federal subsidies should end and civilian nuclear power should be left to stand or fall on its own competitive merits.

If nuclear power is needed and can be produced economically, then the needed plants will be built without government subsidy, the coal industry argues.

AEC Chairman Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg has reminded coal interest that Congress is considering legislation to require private ownership by 1973 of the special materials that nuclear power plants use for fuel.

Seaborg insisted the AEC really is "a great friend" to the coal industry. He estimated that AEC plants in 1962 consumed about 20 times as much electricity as all nuclear power plants in the United States produced.

And in 1961, nearly 20 million tons of coal may have been used in producing electricity to meet the commission's requirements, compared to perhaps one million tons of coal that nuclear generation displaced.

"So far," Seaborg concluded, "our operations have been all to your benefit, even if they have been largely for military purposes."

In reply to President Kennedy's request last year for a report on the potential of civilian nuclear power, the Atomic Energy Commission insisted that "a vigorous national nuclear power program can be pursued without interfering with a growing coal industry."

Seaborg sees nuclear power as a "maybe fuel" for the future with coal reserve adequate.

If nuclear power is developed, he added, it will play a role of "supplementing, not supplanting, the use of coal because, clearly, the need for coal will be increasing for a long time to come.

## A Miner's Prayer

Entitled "A Miner's Prayer", the following item was offered to Independent Coal Review by Pennsylvania State Mine Inspector Peter Hino, of Mahanoy City.

"O Lord after I have worked my last day and come out of the earth and have placed my feet on Thy footstool, let me use the tools of prudence, faith, hope and charity. From now on 'til I will be called to sign my last pay roll, make all the cables in the machinery strong with Thy love. Supply all the gangways, slopes and chambers with the pure air of Thy grace and let the light of hope be my guidance, and when my last picking and shoveling is done, may my last car be full of Thy grace and give me the Holy Bible for my last shift so that the General Superintendent of all the collieries can say: 'Well done, thou good, faithful miner come, and sign the pay roll and receive the check of eternal happiness.' Amen.



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